

By the Queene.

140



He Queenes Maiestie beyng informed, that where the last yere in the moneth of August, by her speciall proclamation geuen at Otelande, her Maiestie directed sundry good orders to her Portes, for the remouyng and expellyng of all Pirates out of the narrow Seas vpon the coastes of her Realmes, wherupon it folowed that sundry euyl persons hauyng ben apprehended in her Portes, by meanes of the sayde Proclamation, haue ben (as it is notozious) of late tyme executed as Pirates, so as though no manifest Pirates are known at this present to resort to any her Maiesties Portes, yet it is supposed that by the fraude and greedinesse of some negligent officers in some smal Portes or Creekes of the Realme, certayne goodes & Marchandize are secretly brought into the sayd Portes (as it is sayde) from some Shippes of warre of other countreys, beyng vpon the hygh Seas, and out of the daunger of her Maiesties Castles or Bulwarkes to be stayed, and are thought to be there taken by the sayde Shippes of warre by force of armes from Marchauntes passyng through the narrow Seas: a matter much misliked by her Maiestie. For remedie wherof, her Maiestie doth eftsones most straitly charge & comaunde al maner persons, to haue a more earnest regarde to the obseruation of all thinges contayned in the foresayde Proclamation, vpon the seueral paynes therein contayned: and that the same Proclamation be in euery Port of her Realme newly published & obserued.

And therunto this her Maiestie presently addeth, that yf any officer in any Port or Creeke, shall haue any knowlege or information geuen of any person, that directly or indirectly shall bye, or any wyse attayne to any maner goodes or Marchandize brought in, otherwyse then ordinarily and publiquely by Marchauntes Shippes, as lawfully tradyng Marchandize: that the sayde officers for not apprehending the offenders, and for not withstanding such fraudes, shalbe both depriued of their offices, and committed to prison without bayle, yf their offices be of her Maiesties gyft. And yf they haue continuance of their offices or iurisdiccions by graunt of corporation, the whole liberties of the corporation for such misuses shalbe sealed into her Maiesties handes, and be extinguished. And whosoever shall geue any true information to her Maiesties priue Counsell agaynst any such officers so offending, the same shalbe duely and largely rewarded to his comfort and satisfaction, and to the encouragynge of others to detect such offences and fraudes.

Given at Hampton Court the sixt day of June, 1570. in the twelfth yere of her Maiesties raigne.

God saue the Queene.

Imprinted at London in Powles

Churchyarde by Richarde Iugge and Iohn Cawood,

Printers to the Queenes Maiestie,

Cum privilegio Regis Maiestatis.